

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KUALA 02036 101108 Z

15

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 OMB-01 ACDA-19 RSR-01 /127 W
----- 023814

R 101000 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4245

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

CINCPAC

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUALA LUMPUR 2036

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: MARR, MASS, PFOR, AS, MY, SN, ID

SUBJECT: BARNARD VISIT TO MALAYSIA

SUMMARY. ON MAJOR SUBJECT OF BARNARD VISIT, FUTURE OF AUSTRALIAN AIR SQUADRON AT BUTTERWORTH, BOTH BARNARD AND GOM DISPLAYED CERTAIN FLEXIBILITY ON QUESTION OF WITHDRAWAL OF AUSTRALIAN UNITS. MALAYSIANS SPECIFICALLY COUNTERED VIEW EXPRESSED BY DPM ISMAIL ON RECENT VISIT TO CANBERRA THAT BUTTERWORTH MIGHT BE TOO CROWDED TO ACCOMMODATE AUSTRALIAN UNITS AFTER 1976. GOM TOLD BARNARD ACCOMMODATIONS FOR AUSTRALIANS WOULD BE MADE " IF AUSTRALIANS CHOSE TO STAY." BARNARD MADE CLEAR HE WAS MERELY DISCUSSING TENTATIVE PLANS OF GOA, WHICH INDICATED POSSIBLE WITHDRAWAL FROM BUTTERWORTH IN 1976, BUT THAT VIEWS OF GOM WOULD BE GIVEN CAREFUL CONSIDERATION PRIOR TO ANY FINAL DETERMINATION. END SUMMARY.

1. IN FRANK REVIEW, AUSTRALIAN HICOM PARSONS SUMMED UP
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 KUALA 02036 101108 Z

BARNARD VISIT AS USEFUL AND CONSTRUCTIVE. FORTUNATELY BARNARD' S APPROACH WAS THAT OF SEEKING GOM' S CONSIDERED VIEWS AS NECESSARY ELEMENT FOR GOA PLANNING REGARDING FUTURE OF BUTTERWORTH AS WELL AS GOA MILITARY PRESENCE IN SINGAPORE. WITH REGARD TO LATTER, IT WAS CLEAR THAT MALAYSIANS COULD NOT BE LESS INTERESTED. WHILE SOME CONCERN WAS EXPRESSED BY THEM FOR IMPACT ON UK OF AUSTRALIAN WITHDRAWAL OF FORCES FROM SINGAPORE, THIS ISSUE WAS OBVIOUSLY OF LITTLE CONCERN TO GOM.

2. RAZAK EVIDENTLY MADE IT AS CLEAR AS HE COULD, WITHOUT FLATLY CONTRADICTING WHAT ISMAIL HAD SAID IN CANBERRA, THAT IF AUSTRALIANS CARED TO MAINTAIN THEIR AIR UNITS IN BUTTERWORTH AFTER 1976, THE GOM WOULD GIVE FULL CONSIDERATION TO FINDING SUITABLE ACCOMMODATIONS. RAZAK SAID THAT WHILE GOM HOPED FOR REAL PROGRESS ON NEUTRALIZATION WITH 3 TO 5 YEARS AND IN THIS TIME FRAME WOULD ITSELF BE ESTABLISHING A CREDIBLE AIR DEFENSE SYSTEM, NEVERTHELESS THERE WERE SUFFICIENT UNCERTAINTIES AHEAD THAT MADE CONTINUATION OF THE FPDA COMPLEMENTARY TO GOM' S PLANS. WHILE AT NO TIME DID RAZAK ACTUALLY STATE THAT HE WISHED THE AUSTRALIANS TO STAY ON, HIS USE OF THE TERM " IF THE AUSTRALINS SO DESIRED," IN THE OPINION OF AUSTRALIAN HICOM, AMOUNTED TO THE SAME THING. (COMMENT: AGREE.)

3. INTERESTING ELEMENT IN CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN BARNARD AND GOM WAS CONTINUING GOM INTEREST IN AUSTRALIAN MILITARY TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE WHICH GOM REPEATEDLY URGED BE CONTINUED. SIGNIFICANT WAS BARNARD' S STATEMENT THAT GOA WOULD BE RECEPTIVE TO ANY AND ALL REQUESTS FOR SUCH TRAINING AND ASSISTANCE; WHILE BARNARD CLEARLY INDICATED AUSTRALIAN FORCES WOULD BE EFFECTIVELY WITHDRAWN FROM SINGAPORE BY APRIL 1975, EXCEPT FOR A RESIDUAL CONTINGENT OF SOME 150 MEN, THE AUSTRALINS WOULD BE RECEPTIVE TO INCREASING THEIR ASSISTANCE THERE IN TECHNICAL AND TRAINING AREAS.

4. FURTHER INTERESTING ELEMENT IN DISCUSSIONS WAS GOA INTEREST IN ENGAGING IN BILATERAL OR MULTILATERAL MILITARY EXERCISES WITH MALAYSIA AND SINGAPORE, NOT EXCLUDING PARTICIPATION BY INDONESIA.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 KUALA 02036 101108 Z

5. COMMENT. IT IS ENCOURAGING THAT GOA APPEARS TO BE FLEXIBLE ON QUESTION OF WITHDRAWAL OF BUTTERWORTH AIR UNITS. OF INTEREST IS INSIGHT INTO BASIS FOR CONTINUING GOA INVOLVEMENT IN IRH# EAST ASIAN AREA MILITARY AFFAIRS. THE DETERMINATION TO WITHDRAW AUSTRALIAN GROUND FORCES FROM SINGAPORE EVIDENTLY REFLECTS STRONG LABOR GOVERNMENT VIEWS ON MAINTENANCE OF AUSTRALIAN GARRISON TROOPS ANYWHERE OUTSIDE AUSTRALIA.

HOWEVER, FACT, AS HICOM REVEALED, THAT BARNARD DID NOT EVEN MENTION PRESENCE OF AUSTRALIAN NAVAL UNITS IN SINGAPORE, INDICATES GOA DOES NOT CONSIDER SUCH MOBILE UNITS IN SAME CATEGORY. AIR UNITS AT BUTTERWORTH SEEM TO LIE SOMEWHERE IN BETWEEN. GOA DESIRE TO ENLARGE ITS MILITARY TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND ENGAGE IN MILITARY EXERCISES IN AREA WOULD SEEM TO REFLECT AN AUSTRALIAN DESIRE TO MAINTAIN CLOSE PARTICIPATION IN BILATERAL WE WELL AS REGIONAL DEFENSE MATTERS.

6. ACCORDING TO HICOM, BARNARD WILL NEXT PROCEED TO LONDON FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH UK ON FPDA. THEREAFTER HE WILL RETURN TO CANBERRA TO REPORT TO CABINET AND PREPARE THE GOVERNMENT'S POSITION FOR LABOR PARTY CONFERENCE SCHEDULED FOR JULY.

7. PLEASE FULLY PROTECT HICOM PARSONS AS SOURCE OF ANY OF FOREGOING, PARTICULARLY IN DISCUSSIONS WITH AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY, WASHINGTON.
LYDMAN

NOTE BY OC/ T: (#) AS RECEIVED.

CONFIDENTIAL
NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PFOR
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973KUALA02036
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: XGDS-1
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: KUALA LUMPUR
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730540/aaaailtd.tel
Line Count: 138
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03-Aug-2001 by boyleja>; APPROVED <12-Dec-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 980108
Subject: BARNARD VISIT TO MALAYSIA
TAGS: MARR, MASS, AS, ID, MY, SN
To: CANBERRA
CINCPAC
EA
JAKARTA
LONDON
SECSTATE WASHDC
SINGAPORE

WELLINGTON

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005